

# ♦The Lamoine Quarterly♦

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July 2014

## Ordinance Amendment Leads Long Lines, a Lawsuit.....

(Lamoine) - The turnout in Lamoine for the June 10, 2014 primary election may have been the highest percentage of votes in the state. Just over 49% of Lamoine's registered voters cast ballots, but it was not the partisan candidates that brought folks out to the polls in large numbers – it was gravel.

On one of the local referendum ballots was a question presented by petitioners that changed the town's Building and Land Use Ordinance significantly by not allowing any new gravel pits to be established in the Rural and Agricultural Zone. Voters passed the measure in one of the most contentious campaigns ever in town by a margin of 450 to 268.

### The Process

In late 2013 Selectmen received a petition asking for the same change, however the section reference in the petition was not correct and the town's attorney advised that no matter how the vote turned out, it would not have changed the ordinance in the right area. Selectmen rejected the petition and petitioners hired an attorney to word the question correctly and presented the required number of signatures to force the issue to referendum in January 2014. Following legal advice, the Planning Board first held a hearing on the matter and supporters of the petitioned question presented a well rehearsed powerpoint show for a large audience at the school. Because the Selectmen opted to maximize voter turnout by offering the petition as a referendum question, another public hearing was required, and this was held in May. Again, supporters presented their slide show, and this time opponents also made a power point presentation.

## Lamoine School Department is Official

(Lamoine) - The now 5-member Lamoine School Committee has been meeting since March, hiring staff and passing policies in order to hit the ground running on July 1st when the town's education system moves out from under the umbrella of Regional School Unit 24 and stands alone, sort of.

School Board members voted unanimously to hire Katrina Kane as the new, part-time (one day per week) Superintendent of schools for Lamoine. Mrs. Kane will also spend 2-days per week as Hancock's superintendent of schools. She worked as the assistant superintendent of RSU 24. Her office will be located on Main Street in Ellsworth above Camden National Bank, sharing space with the Ellsworth School Department central office.

Lamoine has also agreed to hire business management services from the Ellsworth School Department. Carolyn Heller will act as the school business manager, processing payments for the

### The Issues

Professionally made campaign signs started appearing all over town. Opponents of the zoning change argued that property rights would be taken away should the vote pass. A lawsuit has been filed on behalf of a property owner, claiming their land has been significantly de-valued because it can no longer seek a permit to remove gravel from the property which sits in the Rural and Agricultural Zone. The suit claims the town has taken value away from the property owner.

Proponents argued on several fronts. There were claims that soil removal presents a threat to the groundwater that sits underneath the large gravel deposits. There were claims that assessments to gravel pit operators were significantly lower than the assessments to non-permitted land. Those backing the ordinance change argued that truck traffic, noise and dust have encroached on neighborhoods.

### The Future

As previously referenced, the town now faces litigation following passage of the zoning change. A special committee set up by the Selectmen following passage of the 2013 version of the gravel ordinance has been meeting for several months to try to present options for possible amendments to that ordinance. The town is appointing a Comprehensive Planning Committee and there is little doubt gravel mining will be a major topic of discussion.



## ....And a Fence



(Lamoine) - In the overnight hours following the June 10th vote to change the Building and Land Use Ordinance, a construction fence appeared on the property line between the Lamoine Town Hall lot and land owned by contractor Perry Fowler. It certainly has generated a good deal of "buzz". Fowler said the timing of the installation was not necessarily coincidental, but the real reason for the fence has a more practical side. Fowler operates a gravel extraction operation just north of the town hall and the grade of the entrance into the pit is such that a flat-bottom trailer scrapes along the bottom when utilizing that entrance. He tells *The Lamoine Quarterly* that the plan is to establish a new entrance just on the north side of the boundary line which would be less steep and accommodate heavy equipment trailers. Fowler said the Maine Department of Transportation needed to know where the boundary lies and the fence demarks that property line.

## Transfer Station Closed July 4th

(Lamoine) - The Independence Day holiday falls on Friday this year, so the Lamoine Transfer Station will be closed that day. Instead, it will be open on Thursday, July 3, 2014 from 8am to 5pm to accommodate commercial trash haulers and other users. Folks are encouraged to use the station on that Thursday to lessen the expected heavier than usual use on Saturday July 5th.



## Town Hall Prepared for Power Failures

(Lamoine) - The ice storm that paralyzed the town at the end of 2013 left some lasting lessons behind. One of the biggest needs during such an event is information, and the town was literally powerless to disseminate information from its usual headquarters—the town hall. It too was without power for several days. School was closed for the holiday break and would not have opened during power outages, and the fire station is not suitable for public gatherings, especially during emergencies, so there was really no central location in town to get warm or to gather fresh water during the storm.

Shortly after the storm, the Board of Selectmen in consultation with the informal Cable TV Committee jointly approved of utilizing cable TV franchise fee funds to install a generator at the town office. The move will provide several benefits. The town hall can keep functioning, provide a warm room for people to gather, and perhaps most importantly it can keep communications avenues open such as the telephone, the town's website, and the cable TV channel.

The generator was purchased through Colwell Diesel in Ellsworth and



*Workers from Colwell Diesel place the town hall's new generator at the back of the building*

local electrician Arthur Ashmore spent several days at the town hall running the proper wires through the building to make sure the generator automatically comes on when the power goes out. The unit is powered by propane, and Dead River Company installed two large tanks on the northeast side of the town office. In all, the project cost about \$8,000.00. During initial testing, everything seemed to work well. Since installation, there have been no major outages to hit the town hall.

## “Cheese House” Light Prompts Discussion

(Lamoine) - Town officials in both Lamoine and Trenton found out that having the State of Maine install a traffic light comes with some strings attached. Several years ago the Lamoine Board of Selectmen asked the Maine Department of Transportation (MDOT) if it would consider a light at the intersection of Routes 204 and 3 in Trenton, better known as the “Cheese House” intersection. MDOT agreed the intersection warranted a traffic light and devised plans to rebuild the intersection and install a light. Just one hitch: the Town of Trenton would have to pay for the power, insurance and maintenance of the light because it is

located in Trenton. The Selectmen in Trenton balked—they never requested the light. At a public hearing in June in Trenton, town officials from both communities agreed to start talking about a cooperative agreement on the future light costs. Lamoine drafted up a cost-sharing agreement. Trenton has rejected paying for any of the light maintenance. The Selectmen in Lamoine have agreed to pick up the annual electricity, insurance and maintenance costs, if the MDOT will allow that. Selectmen say the light will be of tremendous benefit to folks traveling to Mt. Desert Island from Lamoine and beyond.

## Gravel Group Finishes Up Work

(Lamoine) - A 9-member panel studying Lamoine's Gravel Ordinance has submitted a final report to the Board of Selectmen and decisions will come sometime in the next few months on what, if any, amendments to the ordinance will be sent to voters.

The working group focused on four contentious areas of the ordinance that was passed in March 2013, then amended in April, 2014. They explored issues of water monitoring, required setbacks from property lines, reclamation and restoration, and the permitting and renewal process.

Pit operators say the present ordinance encourages large extraction operations because of an increase to 100-foot setbacks and requirements to install expensive wells and conduct annual water

monitoring tests. Many who attended the various meetings expressed concern about groundwater contamination from gravel extraction.

The group hired hydro-geologist Robert Gerber to address the water monitoring issues and he met with the committee in early June to explain how a water quality monitoring program would be most effective. Gerber said removal rarely leads to contamination—accidents and vandalism are more likely sources.

The working group's final report to the Board of Selectmen makes no recommendation on what changes ought to be made to the ordinance, but does offer a range of options on each of the four areas that received extensive discussion over the 4-month meeting process.

## E-Mail, Website Repaired, Finally

(Lamoine) - For a couple of months this spring, the town office struggled mightily with technology that had been taken for granted—namely e-mail and the town's website. Our tech guru, Brett Jones, spent countless hours reprogramming the town's internet server after an initial intrusion rendered it useless when plugged into the incoming Internet modem.

Shortly after the first major reprogramming, the server was again compromised, most likely from overseas sources. When the website and e-mail were plugged in, the town office was unable to access anything else on the Internet because the intrusion flooded the modem with data.

After much research, Jones and the folks volunteering on the Cable TV committee opted to approach Time Warner cable Business Class to host the e-mail addresses as well as DNS service (that's the service that points the internet to the right machines). The town's website will still be hosted on in house on a server at the town hall, but isolated from potential outside intrusion thanks to the DNS/e-mail service. The e-mail accounts with the lamoine-me.gov domain were taken off line in mid-May, and folks sending e-mail to those addresses saw the messages kick back. Service was finally restored for e-mail purposes on June 24, 2014.

The remotely hosted e-mail addresses should be a lot more reliable, though it will cost the town about \$16.00/month where hosting it in-house had been free. In the few days that the system has been up and running, town office staff reports no e-mail issues. Selectmen are grateful to Jones for coordinating the solution.

## Technology Committee Established

(Lamoine) - The Board of Selectmen has approved of a new committee to assist the town on a variety of technological issues. The committee will vary in size from 3-to-5 members (depending on interest), and advise the town of the local Cable TV channel, assist with setting up a Cable TV channel at the Lamoine Consolidated School, help negotiate a new franchise agreement with Time Warner Cable when that expires in 3-years, and advise on computer and other technology needs at the town office. The committee will also develop and review existing policies in regard to technology to present to the Board of Selectmen.

Named to the committee were William Butler, Brett Jones and Merle Bragdon. The committee will hold its initial meeting at a time to be determined in the coming months.

## Planning Board Rejects Pit Expansion

### *Lawsuit, Appeal Filed*

(Lamoine) - After nearly 2-years of reviews, hearings, well test data reviews and lengthy meetings, Lamoine’s Planning Board has rejected an application to expand an existing gravel extraction operation submitted by Harold MacQuinn, Inc. That rejection came at the May 13, 2014 Planning Board Meeting where the Board turned down a Site Plan Review application and a Gravel Extraction Permit application. Following the rejection, an attorney for MacQuinn filed an appeal with the Lamoine Board of Appeals and with Superior Court.

The Planning Board rejected the Site Plan Review application on several grounds, including preservation and enhancement of the landscape, vehicular access (that was later modified to reduce the number of road entrances onto Route 184 to two), groundwater protection, and

compliance with the Comprehensive Plan. The Planning Board also rejected a gravel permit on several grounds, finding that expansion would result in unhealthful or unsafe conditions, and would not conserve the natural beauty of the land, and that it would negatively affect surrounding properties.

The revised application was filed in November of 2012. A public hearing in January 2013 nearly filled the Lamoine Consolidated School gymnasium and most residents who testified expressed opposition to the proposed expansion, though some support was also received.

The Planning Board reviewed the applications based on the ordinance in effect at the time of the application, noting that a new gravel ordinance was approved by the town meeting in March 2013. The Appeals Board will meet July 14th, 2014.

## Gallagher Retires from Planning Board

(Lamoine) - Great Ledge Road resident James Gallagher has asked the Board of Selectmen not to reappoint him when his term expired on June 30, 2014. Gallagher finished out his first full term, and prior to that served on the Planning Board as an alternate member for 3-years.

Selectmen appointed Perry Fowler to the full 5-year term and David Legere as an alternate member of the board for 3-years. Legere also serves on the town’s Conservation Commission and was part of the Gravel Ordinance Work Group.

## Planning Board to Decide on Gravel Permits

(Lamoine) - The latest batch of gravel extraction operation to see permits goes to public hearing on July 8, 2014 at 6:30 PM. Doug Gott & Sons submitted applications for three gravel operations, all in the same proximity on either side of the Lamoine Transfer Station.

The Planning Board will also act at some point during the summer on an application filed by Mike Keene whose pit is located off Partridge Cove Road. Keene’s engineer was not available for the July Planning Board meeting.

## New Flood Maps Due Soon

(Lamoine) - The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) is finalizing new flood maps for all of Hancock County. Town officials reviewed a draft of Lamoine’s maps and offered several labeling corrections. Most of the elevations have not changed significantly from the 1991 maps that remain in effect.

## Violation Notices Issued to Pit Owners

(Lamoine) - Code Enforcement Officer Michael Jordan issued notices of violation to the owners of three gravel extraction operations in May for failing to install and test monitoring wells that were part of the conditional permit approval. A follow up inspection has not taken place, but surveyor Stephen Salsbury who represents Harold MacQuinn, Inc., John W. Goodwin Jr. and RF Jordan, says the wells have not all been installed yet.

Salsbury reported to the Board of Selectmen in late June that all but three of the pits had installed the wells and performed the required water tests. Selectmen approved a consent agreement on the other three pits.

## Code Complaints Investigated

(Lamoine) - Code Enforcement Officer Michael Jordan has fielded several other complaints, investigating alleged violations of both the Shoreland Zoning and Building & Land Use Ordinances.

A Walker Road resident was issued a notice of violation for cutting too many trees in the Shoreland Zone bordering Blunt’s Pond. Jordan reports the landowner has been cooperative and has submitted a plan to replant vegetation.

A complaint alleging a 2nd dwelling unit (a recreational vehicle) had been placed improperly on a Lorimer Road lot found that the RV was parked next to a home, but not attached to utilities. The landowner did fail to obtain a road opening permit, though, and had submitted the proper application after a visit from Jordan.

A Douglas Hwy resident has moved hobby car parts on his lot following an automobile graveyard inquiry.

## Appeals Board Overturns Planning Board Building Denial

(Lamoine) - Lamoine’s Board of Appeals has overturned a Planning Board decision that denied a site plan review permit to Doug Gott & Sons to construct a garage on land the contractor owns off Lamoine Beach Road. In denying the permit, the Planning Board ruled that the proposed disturbance of roughly 70,000 yards of gravel ran afoul of the Site Plan Review Ordinance requirement to minimize soil disturbance.

The Appeals Board ruled that the application was not an attempt to circumvent the town’s gravel extraction rules, but was indeed a legitimate use of land to construct a commercial building. Members found that while the amount of gravel to be moved would potentially generate some income for Gott, it was significantly less than the amount of gravel extraction that had been proposed and denied a few years ago. Additionally, the building construction cost exceeds the revenue that would be generated.

Finally, the Appeals Board ruled that because the building would be set lower on the land, it would remove the project from the view of abutting property owners. Had the project been built at the current elevation, the view would have a significant impact on the neighbors.

The Planning Board has asked for reconsideration of the decision. The Appeals Board will consider that request when it meets on July 14, 2014.

## Permits Issued

(Lamoine) - Code Enforcement Officer Michael Jordan has issued the following construction permits:

#	Name	Project
1	Fellis, Stephen	Shed
2	Liberty, Alida	Dock
3	Smith, Craig	Residence
4	Jordan, Richard	Addition
5	Cirard, Paul	Addition
6	Karst, John	Residence
7	Belch, Tony	Residence
8	Richter, Philip	Garage
9	Herrick, David	Shed
10	Garrison, Daniel	Residence
11	Watson, Patrick	Residence
12	Bishop, Suzanne	Foundation
13	Engelhard, Brian	Deck
14	Parkinson, Wm.	Deck
15	Workman, Stewart	Residence
16	McKeage, John	Platform
17	Fennelly, Richard	Mobile Home
18	Hilt, Dana	Porch
19	McDonald, Brian	Breezeway



## Delayed Town Meeting Draws Big Turnout

(Lamoine) - No ice or snow to keep people away from the Lamoine School Gym in mid-April and plenty on the warrant to interest a lot of folks led to a strong turnout at the slightly delayed annual town meeting. Incoming ballot clerk Kathleen DeFusco checked in 118 registered voters, and they passed everything pretty much as presented in the warrant.

Three amendments to the Gravel Ordinance as presented by the Planning Board passed following brief discussions. The new version of the Building and Land Use ordinance also passed—the changes removed building inspection from the town's responsibility as the town has elected not to inspect to the Maine Uniform Building and Energy Code. All the municipal budget articles passed



*Voters raise their cards to pass one of the 32 articles at the annual town meeting held a month later than planned.*

intact, though voters opted to increase the social services budget by \$600. The municipal budget increased by \$93,298. Of the increase, paving and road maintenance made up \$77,580. The town will pave Needles Eye Road in the spring of 2015 which is a much longer road than the section of Walker Road paved this spring. None property tax revenues are down \$63,340, meaning the municipality will have to raise \$156,638 more in property taxes to fund the 14/15 budget.

## Town Tackles Heating Matters in Summer

(Lamoine) - While temperatures have become reasonable again, the Board of Selectmen has begun planning for next winter's heating season on several fronts.

Proposals are due in July for a new heating system for the Lamoine Town Hall. The present furnace was installed in 1989 and has reached the end of its useful life. Last winter the furnace failed numerous times, forcing the office to close for the day. Selectmen are asking contractors to propose an appropriate system for the building.

Meanwhile, Hancock and Sullivan have once again joined Lamoine in seeking bids for heating fuel. The big news this

year is the addition of the Hancock and Lamoine schools to the fuel purchase. The three towns will meet jointly in July to award a contract

Finally, the board has drafted a program to distribute privately generated funds to assist citizens with heating fuel purchases. The Hancock County Commissioners have voted to supply each town administering such a fund with \$500, provided donations of at least \$1,000 come in. Falcon Lane resident Walter Grenier has offered to help raise the donated funds. The proposed program is similar to one run by the City of Ellsworth, and will be run by an appointed panel.

## Comprehensive Plan Committee Named

(Lamoine) - In April, voters gave swift approval to funding and authority to create a Comprehensive Plan. That prompted Selectmen to seek out folks to serve on the committee for the next few years to come up with a plan to put before voters.

Named to the committee in late June were Valerie Sprague of Mill Road, Kathryn Gaianguet of Great Ledge Road, Bonnie Marckoon of Rabbit Run, Fred Stocking of Berry Cove Road, Brett Jones

of Seal Point Road, Robert Christie of Lamoine Beach Road, and Andrea Ames of Shore Road. Initially, Selectmen appointed Ames as an alternate member and appointed Code Enforcement Officer Michael Jordan to the committee. Jordan has since indicated it would make more sense for him to serve as a staff liaison and have Ames as the full voting member of the committee. It's expected the committee will meet sometime in July.

## Tax Notices Mailed, Liens Pending

(Lamoine) - The tax collection office issued notices that tax liens would be placed on about 130-properties in early June, giving the parcel owners 30-days to bring the taxes current. As of the end of June, about 90-taxpayers still had outstanding balances.

Those property taxes that were due on February 28, 2014 and remain unpaid will see liens generated and filed during the first week of July. Liens must be paid in full to be discharged by the towns.

Under state law, tax liens automatically foreclose to the town 18-months from the date of filing. The town is obligated to make notification to any property owner or party of interest when the lien is filed and 30-to-45 days before the automatic foreclosure date which would be in early January, 2016.

The Selectmen voted this spring to sell one tax acquired property back to the former owner after he came forward at the last second and paid the taxes in full.

## Cynthia Donaldson Named Citizen Of The Year

(Lamoine) - Retiring Selectman Cynthia Donaldson received the annual Citizen of the Year plaque from her fellow selectmen at the annual town meeting. The Board cited Donaldson's three terms on the board and her tireless advocacy for issues affecting small children when determining the award. Mrs. Donaldson continues to remain active even after retirement, volunteering for the Friends in Action organization by providing rides for those who need them.



*Cynthia Donaldson gets a hug from long time fellow Selectman Jo Cooper while new Selectboard chair Gary McFarland looks on.*

## Selectmen Join County Charter Call

(Lamoine) - An effort is under way in many Hancock County communities asking the County Commissioners to former a charter commission. The county currently runs under state rules that govern counties and the three elected commissioners run the day to day operation—pretty much the same as has been done since the county was established as part of Massachusetts in 1789.

Members of the League of Towns have suggested that perhaps it's time to look at some different options for operating a large governmental operation—including having a county charter which may or may not include hiring of a professional manager to run things in a similar fashion to most of the towns that make up the county.

The Lamoine Board of Selectmen signed a resolve urging the County Commissioners to form a charter commission to explore the options available, and if something else makes sense, to possibly offer a charter and government organizational change to the voters.



# Rotted Wood Plagues Fire Station

Special Town Meeting Planned for July 17, 2014



*Fire Captain Mike Jordan (on ladder) and Lt. Chris Bean start dismantling rotted timbers around the garage doors at the Lamoine Fire Station in order to replace them with new material. Only the siding remained to be installed in late June*

(Lamoine) - When a wind storm blew a piece of siding from over one of the apparatus bay doors at the Lamoine Fire Station in late April, it revealed an expensive problem. The wood under the siding had rotted, and the situation was likely the same under the other three bay doors, and possibly throughout the front of the building. Chief George “Skip” Smith reported the problem immediately to the Selectmen and started fearing the worst—potentially tens of thousands of dollars in costs to repair.

The volunteer crew at the LVFD led by Capt. Michael Jordan, started peeling off the siding over the doors to see exactly how far the rot problem went. The town checked with its insurance company—rot is specifically excluded from coverage, and the cost to replace the siding is likely less than the deductible in

the policy.

A work “bee” in May saw all of the rotted timbers replaced. The damage was not as widespread as feared—the biggest fear was that the garage doors would have to come off, and that alone was about \$4,500. As of the end of June the trim was up around the garage doors and Capt. Jordan had ordered the replacement siding which goes up next, followed by the lettering on the station front. The work should be complete in early July.

The entire project will put the fire department well over budget for the fiscal year that ends June 30th. The Selectmen have ordered a special town meeting for July 17th to authorize up to \$5,500 from undesignated fund balance (surplus) to cover the costs. The meeting will take place at 6:30 PM at the Town Hall, and no opposition is expected.

# Meyer Hired As Transfer Station Manager

(Lamoine) - When the town found itself in a pinch in early March following the abrupt resignation of its transfer station manager, Chris Meyer offered to run the facility on an interim basis. A retired engineer, Meyer had expressed interest in filling in at the facility. That interest led him to apply for the job, and the Board of Selectmen unanimously selected him for the position in April.

One of the first efforts Meyer undertook was to make sure that those using the facility actually live in Lamoine. He set up a checkpoint that was met with praise by some and disdain by others who were stopped as they drove into the transfer station. Meyer reports that about a dozen vehicles who could not verify that the trash they were throwing away was actually generated in Lamoine were turned away during the initial sticker check. He says he plans to check for stickers on an unannounced basis. Stickers are available to Lamoine residents and property owners at no charge.

Meyer has also been stressing the recycling program, and emphasizing that hazardous waste is not allowed in the facility. He’s cleaned out the swap shop and kept the barrier in front of the building to slow traffic down.

# Fire Department Auction Returns

(Lamoine) - The Lamoine Volunteer Fire Department will bring back one of the more popular events of the summer—the annual auction of goods and services. It will be held at the Lamoine Consolidated School on Friday, August 15, with bidding beginning at 6:00 PM. This year’s volunteer professional auctioneer is Mike Hodgkins of Trenton who graciously offered to lead the bidding once again.

Firefighters are currently seeking donations of useful goods and services for the event. Auction Chair Lt. Joe Young has stressed that large items such as furniture and appliances will not be accepted this year, as they often don’t sell very well and end up costing the department a fair amount of time, effort, and money to dispose of.

# Fire Calls Slow During Spring

(Lamoine) - The Lamoine Fire Department found itself responding to a number of medical emergencies between April and June, twice performing CPR until ambulance crews could arrive on scene. Neither patient could be revived. Two other ambulance assistance calls saw firefighters drive the ambulance to Maine Coast Memorial Hospital while paramedics administered aid to the patient inside.

Firefighters assisted Trenton fire at a structural fire off the Oak Point Road during early April. A chimney fire ignited materials in the attic of an apartment and garage and spread through the ceiling, causing significant damage to the roof area.

Two weeks later, the LVFD crew found themselves back in Trenton doing traffic control on busy Route 3 in the early morning hours after an accident brought

down utility poles. The driver fled, but was spotted by a Trenton firefighter and subsequently charged with leaving the scene by the Hancock County Sheriff’s Department.

The LVFD crew responded to a small fire on the side of Raccoon Cove Road that may have been intentionally set. The Maine Forest Service sent a ranger to investigate. A debris fire that spread in the overnight hours at a Douglas Highway property saw firefighters called out in the early morning hours of June 4th. The crew sprayed down the area and returned to the station about 3-hours later. The call marked the maiden voyage of the new tanker truck which has become Tanker 402.

The fire trucks responded to Marlboro Beach when neighbors noticed a



*The crew from Lane Construction puts down a new pavement layer under the area where the cardboard and mixed paper recycling bins sit.*

submerged SUV as the tide went out. It turned out that the vehicle belonged to an Ellsworth worm digger who got it stuck in the mud flats during the overnight hours in the fog, then got a ride home from a nearby worm digger. Apparently neither party had informed the emergency dispatch office about the situation.

One false alarm was also reported during the quarter—it’s not clear what activated a smoke detector at a Lightning Point Lane residence.

Firefighters also conducted a letter writing campaign in an effort to upgrade the department’s thermal imaging camera. The current camera has pretty much reached the end of its useful life. The volunteers hope to order a new camera in the coming months.



## Trail Parking Area Wins State Backing

By Carol Korty

(Lamoine) We have received formal notice that our application to the Maine Recreational Trails Program for funds to improve the Simon Woods Trail has been partially funded. Trail improvements we are hoping to make include the construction of a parking lot, putting up additional signage, building several bog bridges and clearing trees that have fallen close to the trail. The trail is located on Partridge Cove Road on privately owned land but would remain forever open to the public for recreation.

We are currently working on a project proposal related to the Natural Resources Damage Compensation Plan for the Portland-Bangor Waste Oil Site in Ellsworth. The title of the project proposal is SAFEGUARDING THE QUALITY OF LAMOINE'S SOLE-SOURCE WATERSUPPLY: THE GROUNDWATER OF ITS SAND AND GRAVEL AQUIFER. This proposal, if approved by the appropriate Town of

Lamoine personnel, will be submitted to the City of Ellsworth which is responsible for selecting projects to be funded. LCC will provide an informational meeting for the public at a later date. Dr. Willem Brutsaert of Lamoine is providing consultation to LCC during the grant writing process.

LCC held an informational meeting at the Town Hall on March 25th re: forestland management. Andy Schultz of the Maine State Forest Service and Steve MacDonald, Prentiss and Carlisle Co. were the presenters.

We are exploring the role that LCC might take in regards to recycling and also are planning to sponsor a shoreline clean-up for Lamoine. David Legere is LCC's representative on the Gravel Ordinance Work Group.

The Lamoine Conservation Commission meets on the second Wednesday of each month from 7:00-9:00 p.m. at the Town Hall. We invite all Lamoiners to attend our regular meetings and our special public education events.



*Conservation Commission Chair Larry Libby presents the annual conservation award to Bob & Georgianna Pulver at the annual town meeting held in April. The Pulvers were honored for the many years of work with the Commission for the past decade.*

## Spring Road Work Includes Paving, Signs

(Lamoine) - Folks who use the Walker Road between Route 204 and Mill Road have a much nicer ride thanks to a new layer of pavement placed this past spring. Lane Construction won the bid this year, and first placed a shim coat then a 1.5" layer of travel surface on the road that was next on the rotating list. It had been about 15-years since that end of Walker Road was paved. Prior to the work, the crew from Jay Fowler replaced a rotted culvert running under the road. Fowler will also place gravel on the shoulders to eliminate the lip created by the new paving.

The other work on the town roads this spring involved replacing street name signs. During the winter months, vandals were particularly busy swiping signs—about 15 went missing when an inventory was taken in April. One of the replaced street signs, "Old Schoolhouse Lane" disappeared less than 2-weeks after it was replaced. A new sign was ordered and installed on June 30th.

Selectmen approved a variety of minor road maintenance projects for the spring and summer months, and the Road Commissioner will review the work that need to be completed and that which has been done to come up with the work plan for late summer and fall.



*Vandals struck Lamoine again, stealing a number of street name signs during the winter months. This post still sported a holder, but Googins Lane is gone.*

## New Road Name Approved

(Lamoine) - A building permit prompted a request for a new road name for a private way beginning on Douglas Highway in North Lamoine. At property owner Stewart and Alice Workman's request Selectmen named the road "Riley's Way". In addition to a new residence the Workman family is building, the road also services two workshop buildings for SW Boatworks. A street sign will be placed at the entrance in July.

## Girl Scouts Adopt Cemetery Vets

(Lamoine) - The local Brownie/Girl Scout troop spruced up the two major cemeteries in town this past May by placing marker flags on all the veterans graves, and placing wreaths on the granite posts in front of Forest Hill Cemetery. Municipalities are required to place flags at each veteran's grave site, and scout leader Tiffany Davis arranged with the town to obtain the small flags and have the young scouts place them this spring. The troop also arranged to make wreaths adorned with patriotic ribbon and those went in front of the most visible cemetery.

While the scouts took care of the graves at both Forest Hill and East Lamoine, town staff placed flags are several small cemetery and burial sites, including Marlboro Cemetery, a site on MacQuinn Road, a site off Walker Road, and a the Revolution era site of John Ford off Seal Point Road.



*Scout Troop 796 marched in the Ellsworth Memorial Day Parade with wreaths that were placed at Forest Hill Cemetery.*  
*Lori Jordan Photo*

### The Lamoine Quarterly

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## A Lot Happens In Our Little School

(Lamoine) - The school year ended a little later than planned thanks to a lot of snow days during the winter. As school was winding down students went on a walk-a-thon, raising \$1,200 for the newly reformed PATRONS group.

During the year, the “Buddy Reader” program thrived, with older students adopting a younger student and reading to them on a regular basis. The program has been active for many years at the school.

Congratulations to Oliver Brown—the 5th grade student is a state chess champion, winning the Scholastic Chess Championship on March 22 at the University of Maine for grades K-6. Oliver scored a perfect 4-0 score at U-Maine and again at a chess tourney in Deer Isle this spring.

As you can see to the right, the school hallway got a facelift as art teacher Jane Snider coordinated a mural in the hallway. The mural features black silhouettes of actual students doing some of their favorite things. Snider was named the state’s Middle School Art teacher of the year for 2014!.

The younger participants in the annual speech contest took home the trophies this year. Congratulations to first place finisher Laura Yeadon, a 5th grader,



*Art students put the finishing touches on a silhouette mural at the Lamoine Consolidated School*

runner up Emmaline Bierman in the 6th grade, and 3rd place finisher Katilyn Tompkins, also a 5th grader.

As the year was closing, 5th and 6th grade students traveled to the Peninsula School in Gouldsboro for a Revolutionary War camp re-enactment.



***The Future of Lamoine’s School**  
School Committee member Valerie Peacock stopped by the town hall with her son Guy (born May 5th) and ran into new superintendent Katrina Kane. In just 5-years, young Mr. Peacock will start his journey through the education system.*



*The fund raising walk was a big success.*

*Buddy Readers*

## Little Kids News

By Cynthia Donaldson



Lamoine adopted a resolve at its 2013 Town Meeting which acknowledged the importance of children’s early years and pledged our town’s support for its youngest citizens and their families. Following up on that resolve a small group of Lamoine community members stepped forward to form a committee to look at how Lamoine is supporting or might support its young children and their families. Calling ourselves Lamoine’s Little Children we have met four times since February 2014. Areas of interest we are pursuing include starting a playgroup in Lamoine, exploring how preschoolers and their families could access the library at the school, making information about resources for families of young children easily available in Lamoine, and sharing awareness about local and state wide programs and services. We have no budget and intend to spend no town funds, but we do have lots of energy and enthusiasm and a strong commitment to little children.

If you would like to hear more about our group, have suggestions or questions, or would like to join us or be on our mailing list: please call or email Cynthia Donaldson (667-2382 [cgdonaldson@myfairpoint.net](mailto:cgdonaldson@myfairpoint.net)) We will not meet again until September, but we would welcome your involvement at any time.

## Vital Statistics

(Lamoine) - It was a pretty busy quarter for marriages in town. Congratulations to the following:

- ♦ William Butler & Jessica Giblin married June 14, 2014
- ♦ Kyle Beauchamin & Megan Chas married May 31, 2014
- ♦ Christopher Rowell & Willa Parker married May 18, 2014
- ♦ Warren Lawser & Jeannine Carney married May 17, 2014
- ♦ Malachi Austin & Gretchen Miller married May 17, 2014

Lamoine lost one of its most prominent residents. Former Planning Board Chair **Doug Coleman**, a renowned researcher at the Jackson Laboratory, died on April 6, 2014. **John Ellis** passed away on May 5, 2014. **Walter Covey Jr.** died unexpectedly at his Partridge Cove Road home on May 9, 2014. **Genevieve Gardner** passed away May 28, 2014. and **Millard Peusch** died on May 13, 2014. During the quarter, five babies were born to Lamoine residents.

## Literacy Stressed at School

(Lamoine) - The Lamoine Consolidated School held a family literacy night on May 21, 2014. Carol Korty and Dale Macurdy of Lamoine Community arts were guest readers to the students while their families visited a book fair and heard about the state’s Common Core program. The Lamoine PATRONS group provided snacks for the evening.

Korty and Susan Wuorinen visited the 5th grade and discussed works that they’ve written, *Cully’s Gold* and *Hold on There Sadie Coggins!*.

## Honor Graduates Recognized

(Lamoine) - Annually, the Board of Selectmen signs certificates honor those Lamoine students who graduate from high school with honors. The class of 2014 was a very small class, and four of them were on the honor roll—all at Ellsworth High school. Certificates went to **Kristy Eaton, Zakary Lewis, Sara Willis and Mihaela Young** who got their diplomas on June 13, 2014. Best of luck to all the graduates as they move into the “real world”.

## Scholarships Awarded

(Lamoine) - Eight college students from Lamoine will share in \$23,500 in scholarships made available by the Allen and Leurene Hodgkins Scholarship Fund. The awards ranged from \$500 to \$5,000 as determined by a subcommittee of the Board of Selectmen. Six of the seven students attend college in Maine—the other student is studying in Vermont. The Maine Community Foundation administers the scholarship fund. Next year’s deadline will be June 1, 2015.

July 2014– Lamoine Schedule

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Check the town website for more meeting information		1	2	3-Transfer Station Open 8-5	4-Town Office & Transfer Station Closed	5-Town Office Open 8-12, Transfer Stn Open
6	7	8-6:30 PM Planning Board	9-7PM Conservation Commission	10	11	12
13	14-6:30 PM Appeals Board	15-6:30 School Cmte.	16-6:45 Shellfish Conservation	17-6:30 PM Special Town Meeting, Selectmen follow	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26-Town Office Open 8-12
27	28	29	30	31	Town office closed at lunch week of July 28 (Adm. Asst. on Vacation)	

August 2014–Lamoine Schedule

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1-Town Office closed at lunch	2-Town Office open 8 -12
3	4	5-7PM Planning Board	6-8AM Assessors	7	8	9
10	11	12-6:30 School Cmte.	13-7PM Conservation Cmsn.	14-7PM Selectmen	15-6PM Fire Dept Auction	16
17	18	19-Town Office closed at lunch	20-6:45 PM Shellfish Conservation	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30-Town Office open 8-12
31-First Half Property Tax	The Lamoine Fire Department meets at 7PM on each Wednesday evening. Be sure to check the town website (www.lamoine-me.gov) for the latest meeting schedule					

September 2014–Lamoine Schedule

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1-Town Office Closed (Labor Day)	2-7PM Planning Board	3-8:15 AM Assessors	4	5	6-Town Office Open 8-12
7	8	9	10-7PM Conservation Cmsn	11-7PM Selectmen	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25-7PM Selectmen	26	27-Town Office Open 8-12
28	29	30				

The Lamoine Quarterly  
July 2014

- Inside this issue:
- Voters Ban New Gravel

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- New School Department Generator Installed

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- E-mail works again

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- Pit Violations Settle

-2
- Citizen of the Year

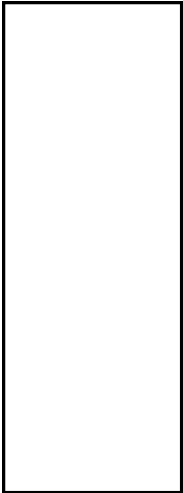
-3
- Fire Station Rots

-4
- Trail Grant Approved

-5
- Chess Champion

-6
- 7

And Much, Much More!



Town of Lamoine  
606 Douglas Highway  
Lamoine, ME 04605